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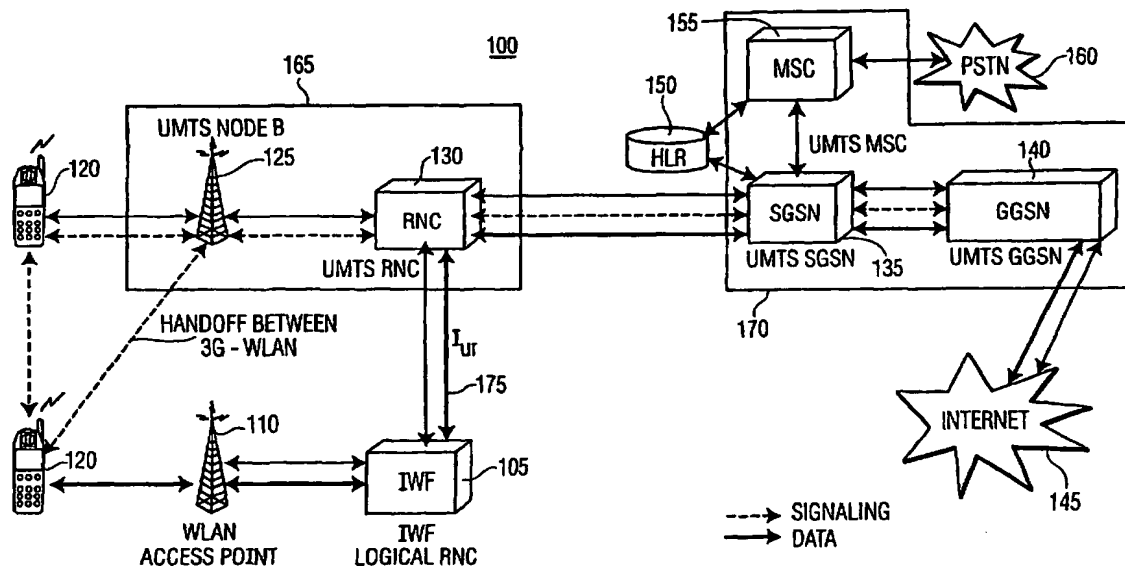
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(54) Title: INTERWORKING FUNCTION (IWF) AS LOGICAL RADIO NETWORK CONTROLLER (RNC) FOR HYBRID COUPLING IN AN INTERWORKING BETWEEN WLAN AND A MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK



(57) Abstract: There is provided a method for supporting an interworking between a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) (110) and a mobile communications network (20). The interworking is facilitated by an InterWorking Function (IWF) (105) disposed on a WLAN (110) side of the interworking. The method comprises the step of connecting the WLAN (110) to the mobile communications network (20) by employing the IWF (105) as an auxiliary radio network controller for the mobile communications network (20), in particular, a Drift Radio Network Controller (DRNC) in a UMTS network (130).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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B. FIELDS SEARCHEDMinimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X, P — Y, P	US 2002/0085540 A1 (HYVARINEN et al) 4 July 2002 (04.07.2002), paragraphs [0016,0019, 0023-0026, 0028, 0036, 0042, 0048-0051]	1, 3-13 ----- 2, 14-25
Y, P	US 2003/0036374 A1 (ENGLISH et al) 20 February 2003 (20.02.2003), paragraphs [0009, 0050, 0054, 0124, 0130, 0147, 0166, 0170, 0172]	2, 14-25
A	US 2003/0095522 A1 (KORUS et al) 22 May 2003 (22.05.2003), paragraphs [0020,0023,0037-0039]	1-25

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